tapol
British Campaign for the Defence of Political Prisoners and Human Rights in Indonesia

TL2211

MEMO

1 April, 1985

PARLIAMENTARIANS' DECLARATION

The number of signatures received so far is as follows:

Denmark	30	UK	30
Ireland	1	Norway	1
New Zealand	2	Portugal	1
Holland	19		

Dutch Labour Party

Henk Knol, the Labour Party MP in charge with Indonesian affairs who strongly supported the previous parliamentarian declaration is not prepared to support the present campaign. In a letter to Lord Avebury, he said, "the only possibility at this moment to change anything is some kind of result from the consultations which are taking place under the auspices of the ... UN." His attitude could result in many other Labour MPs refusing to sign though efforts are being made to convince as many as possible not to follow Knol's line. One reason for Knol's abstensionism is that the Labour Party is set to win the next election and may be shying away from openly challenging Indonesia on any issue.

The Dutch Labour Party position however makes it all the more imperative to get as many signatures as possible from elsewhere, including social democrats, to try to shame the Dutch socdems into reversing their position.

Perez de Cuellar's Jakarta statement

Following Perez de Cuellar's statement in Jakarta that he thought it unlikely ET would come up again at the UN, and even hoped it wouldn't, Lord Avebury wrote to him for confirmation that he had been correctly quoted. I enclose Mr Achmed's reply which shows he was not misquoted. You may use it as you wish.

TAPOL Supplement on East Timor

Bulletin No 68 which is being printed this week contains a Supplement on East Timor a copy of which I enclose. We have decided to print an extra 500 copies of the Supplement, and will send you all an extra ten copies with the Bulletin, to be dispatched (I hope) early next week . Please let me know whether you can use more copies. Financial help on this would be appreciated. See note on page 12 of Supplement.

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